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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 11 September 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations committed from 15 to 21 August 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 17, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 11 September 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israeli violations, acts of aggression and other activities from 15 to 21 August 2008, inclusive

Air violations

On 15 August 2008, between 0815 and 1350 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Naqurah. It circled over the South before leaving over Rumaysh.

On 17 August 2008:

- Between 1115 and 1130 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace. They entered over the sea off Batrun and headed north as far as Tripoli before leaving over the sea off Tripoli, heading in the direction of Turkey;
- Between 1100 and 1250 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Shab'a Farms. They circled over the South and Beirut before leaving over Rumaysh;
- At 0715 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the South and Beirut before leaving over the sea off Naqurah at 0015 hours on 18 August 2008.

On 18 August 2008, between 1002 and 1100 hours, four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Yarun. They circled between Beirut and the South, over sea and land, before leaving over Alma al-Sha'b.

On 19 August 2008, between 0630 and 2145 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Beirut and the South before leaving over Rumaysh.

On 20 August 2008, between 0850 and 2020 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b and heading north as far as Beirut. It circled over Beirut, the South and the Bekaa before leaving over Naqurah.

On 21 August 2008:

- Between 1055 and 1235 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft circled over the areas of Bint Jubayl and Tibnin;
- Between 1200 and 1340 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering from over the sea. It circled between Beirut and Tyre before leaving over the sea off Naqurah;
- Between 1610 and 1625 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft circled over the area of Naqurah.

Acts of aggression in the field

On 19 August 2008:

- Between 1310 and 1400 hours, Israeli enemy forces, from their Radar position inside the occupied Shab'a Farms, fired a number of rounds of light- and medium-weapons fire and launched smoke bombs towards the perimeter of the aforementioned position;
- At 2212 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a laser beam for one minute from its position opposite Labbunah in the direction of Labbunah, Ra's Naqurah and Lebanese territorial waters.

Israeli activities

On 18 August 2008:

- Between 0830 and 1000 hours, an Israeli enemy convoy comprising seven vehicles (three Merkava tanks, three trucks and a Hummer vehicle) proceeded from the Ruwaysat al-Alam position towards the Radar position inside the occupied Shab'a Farms, launching several smoke bombs as it moved. Troops from the convoy erected an observation post approximately 1 km south of the Radar position;
- Between 1100 and 1900 hours, an Israeli enemy bulldozer raised earthen berms at the Radar position inside the occupied Shab'a Farms. Heavy vehicles were also observed moving inside the Farms area.

On 21 August 2008, a recorded message was received by several mobile telephones in the South. The message was as follows: "The State of Israel would like to know if you have any information regarding the pilot Ron Arad. Press the number one and we will contact you later and give you $10 million".